

Hill and Rocky Mount, where 30 percent of the city was underwater, to communities on higher ground that served as refuges for newly homeless neighbors, nearly every person in the eastern North Carolina experienced the Flood in a real way. But one of the hardest hit communities was Princeville, North Carolina. Princeville was completely submerged for more than a week—people's homes were underwater and the business community was virtually leveled.

Princeville, originally called Freedom Hill, is the oldest town incorporated by African-Americans in the United States. It was settled in 1865 by newly freed slaves on low and soggy swampland across the Tar River from the town of Tarboro. It had survived smaller floods over the years, but The Flood of 1999 nearly killed this historic town. With water up to the rooftops, FEMA offered the people of Princeville a buyout to abandon the town.

Though a difficult decision, the town rejected the offer 3–2. At the time, Mayor Delia Perkins said, "Rebuilding is staying with your heritage. We plan to stay."

The community's struggle to rebuild attracted the attention of many people, including then-President Bill Clinton. President Clinton issued Executive Order (EO) 13146, tasking an interagency President's Council with developing "assessments and recommendations to repair and rebuild Princeville, and, to the extent practicable, protect Princeville from future floods." Hosts of other national figures visited and lent their support. Today, much of the town is rebuilt, though a handful of flooded homes still await demolition.

Today we remember the devastation caused by the Hurricane Floyd flood of 1999. The scars are still seen on the sides of buildings and in the hearts of people, but these communities have overcome and continue to work toward full recovery after these 10 years.

EDGAR BRIDGES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, it gives me immense pleasure to recognize the life and accomplishments of a scholar, a leader, and a pillar in the community, Mr. Edgar Bridges.

Mr. Edgar Bridges' extensive scholastic record is an excellent testament to his belief in the power of education both for himself, and for the advancement of his community as a whole. He began his scholastic career in Lawrence County Public Schools. Later, he attended Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute. He then attended Pacific Training School in Los Angeles California. Mr. Edgar Bridges' scholastic achievements culminated when he received a Bachelor's in Science Degree in Religious Education from The Mississippi Baptist Seminary.

Mr. Bridges' aforementioned education afforded him the opportunity to realize the importance of education for everyone. Thus, he became a champion for the educational development of children and improving life experiences for youth as a whole, serving as Executive Director of The Lawrence County Education and Recreation Association, president

of the Lawrence County Educational Convention, member of the Board of Trustees for McCullough High School (Monticello, MS), and Chairman of the Board of Directors for Five County Child Development Program Inc.

Mr. Edgar Bridges' record of service to his community, church, and participation in civic activities are exemplary of a person who truly cares about the community, and believes in "giving back" to them through tireless effort and dedication. He served as co-chair of the Home Health Care Agency at Lawrence County Hospital and Superintendent of the Mission for the Lawrence County Baptist Association. He also contributed to the community by becoming a member of the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, and was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. Bridges' phenomenal record in education and service was recognized in the form of awards, accolades, and citations. He received the Medgar Evers Award for Outstanding Leadership, the Labor and Industry Award from the NAACP for being an outstanding contributor to Head Start, and was Emeritus Grand Master of the M.W. Stringer Grand Lodge of Mississippi, an accomplishment in which he was most proud.

Once again, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the lifetime and accomplishments of The Honorable Mr. Edgar Bridges. I am honored to salute such a champion for academics, a true leader, and a pillar of the community.

CONGRATULATING THE MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I extend my strong support to H. Res. 215, which congratulates the Minority Business Development Agency for its accomplishments on its 40th anniversary.

For forty years, the Minority Business Development Agency has fostered the establishment and growth of minority-owned businesses in America. Since the agency's founding in 1969, it has assisted 625,000 minority businesses and helped them secure more than \$25 billion in loans and bonding. In 2008, it served 25,000 businesses and contributed to the creation of over 5,000 new jobs. The Minority Business Development Agency is the only federal agency dedicated to minority business enterprise and works to achieve entrepreneurial parity so that minority businesses are represented proportionally to the minority population in this country.

While the number of minority businesses in the United States has grown today to 4 million from only 322,000 in 1969, the growth of minority firms has not kept pace with the growth of the minority population. Minority groups represent 26 percent of the country's population, but own only 12 percent of the nation's businesses and receive only 6 percent of total sales.

Nevertheless, minority enterprises account for \$668 billion in total annual sales receipts

and employ 5 million people. By 2042, minorities in America will become a numerical majority. Based on this population shift, it is clear that the success of the American economy is directly linked to the success of minority businesses, which are in a unique position to support the vibrancy of local communities. Supporting minority businesses is not only beneficial to minority enterprise, but to communities and people who depend on those businesses as well.

As the Minority Business Development Agency enters its fifth decade, I urge the agency to continue its efforts to help minorities achieve entrepreneurial parity, contribute to the health of the national economy and communities across America. I am proud to celebrate the achievements of the Minority Business Development Agency on its 40th anniversary and I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 215.

HONORING RAYMOND H.
DUNLAP, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr. for 21 years broadcasting the "Hour of Power" Radio Program. Bishop Dunlap will be honored this weekend by the congregations of Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith and New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church.

After attending the West Virginia Institute and Aeon Bible College, he served in the US Armed Services for two years. He was discharged in 1952, married Lillian Thomas in 1953, and accepted his call to preach the Gospel in 1954 under the direction of his father, Bishop Sandy Dunlap.

He moved to Flint, Michigan in 1966 and founded The Eliezer Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was elevated to District Elder and then Junior Bishop. In August 1983, he was ordained a Bishop and currently presides as Diocesan of the Northern Diocese of Michigan; he is the former Diocesan of Minnesota. Bishop Dunlap also serves as the establishmentarian of Berea Bible College. He has directed the establishment of 13 churches of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Michigan and 3 churches in Minnesota. In addition to being heard daily on the "Hour of Power," Bishop has reared more than 46 ministerial sons and Eliezer Church operates the Hope Academy School.

Bishop Dunlap and his wife, Lillian, have been blessed with 6 children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the work of Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr. He has devoted his life to bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Flint, Michigan. His radio broadcasts are a source of comfort and joy to his listeners. I pray that he will continue for many years to inspire and elevate the spiritual life of the community and bring his message of hope to those with the most need.

INFORMATION FOR PROCLAMATION OR CONGRATULATORY LETTER FOR BISHOP RAYMOND H. DUNLAP, SR., D.D. THA.A.B.A.

Two (2) day City Wide Celebration Honoring Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr., for 21

years with the "Hour of Power" Radio Program. We will be honoring a great man and appreciating his works at 6:30 pm on;

Friday, September 18, 2009 Services at: Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith, 3401 M. L. King, Jr., Avenue, Flint, MI 48505.

Saturday, September 19, 2009 Services at New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church, 1035 E. Carpenter Road, Flint, MI 43505.

Bishop Dunlap, known as "a man with a Vision" was born January 19, 1929 in Pratt City, Alabama. Pastor Dunlap graduated from Buffalo High School in West Virginia. He attended West Virginia Institute in Charleston, West Virginia and later became a student at the world famous Aeon Bible College in Columbus, Ohio. He served two years in the U. S. Armed Services, receiving an honorable discharge in 1952. Celebrated 80 years of life in January.

Bishop Dunlap married the love of his life Ms. Lillian Thomas on June 1, 1953 and to this blessed union was born six (6) children.

Bishop Dunlap accepted the call of God to preach the Gospel in 1954 under the tutelage of his father Bishop Sandy Dunlap in Columbus, Ohio. By 1960 he was elevated to Assistant Pastor—through the years he served in many other positions in the local church and also held state offices.

In 1966 he relocated his family to Flint, Michigan, sought employment and shortly thereafter established The Eliezer Church of our Lord Jesus Christ. In 1977 he was elevated to District Elder, three years later he was elevated to the office of Junior Bishop. His steadfast character and leadership earned him the honor of being ordained as a Bishop in August 1983 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He presently presides as the Diocesan of the Northern Diocese of Michigan and the former Diocesan of Minnesota. He is the establishmentarian of Berea Bible College (formally Christ Bible College, Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ) since 1998.

Under his spiritual leadership there has been the establishment of 13 churches of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Michigan and 3 in Minnesota. Bishop Dunlap has reared more than 46 ministerial. In 2001 Eliezer established and operates "The Hope Academy School."

Since 1988, Bishop Dunlap is heard daily at 12:30 pm on the "Hour of Power" radio broadcast on WFLT 1420 AM. The spiritual effects of Bishop's ministry is known in the city of Flint and the many places he has ministered; giving proof of God's call on his life, and the vision he has been given by God.

Bishop Dunlap is a dedicated family man; loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is an avid fisherman, a pianist, song writer, composer of poems. His godly lifestyle, winning smile, gentle manner and love for people has earned him great respect among his peers, community leaders, business associates and citizens through this community.

CONGRATULATING THE DORA B. LANTRIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON THEIR 2009 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Dora B. Lantrip Elementary School in the Houston Independent School District and our district for their dedication to academic excellence that

has earned them the honored distinction of being a Blue Ribbon School in 2009.

Since 1982, the U. S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored many of America's most successful schools, and I am proud of Lantrip Elementary for establishing itself as an elite academic institution by achieving this high honor. The Blue Ribbon Award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are academically superior or have made dramatic gains in student achievement and helped close achievement gaps among minority and disadvantaged students. This year 314 schools earned this coveted award.

Dora B. Lantrip Elementary is a school that believes higher expectations lead to higher achievement. Lantrip strives to stimulate young minds and encourage them to strive for excellence, while instilling in them a love of learning. Under the supervision of Principal Ms. Matilda Orozco, Lantrip Elementary also works to develop students into decision-makers who have mutual respect for others. Lantrip Elementary is an example of consistent excellence that is an inspiration for all schools in the Houston area.

I congratulate the administration, teachers, parents, and students at Lantrip for their dedication to excellence and hard work.

REMEMBERING PAT FLECK,
SPRING HILL, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, last Thursday evening a spark went out in Hernando County. "The Mother of Spring Hill," Pat Fleck, lost her battle with cancer. Known for her genuine love of, and devotion to, her community, she was a pioneer for women in business, a leader in public service, a mentor, devoted mother, wife and friend.

A long time resident of Spring Hill, in an interview with a local paper, she recalled a time when U.S. 19 was only two lanes wide and so empty that on trips to a New Port Richey supermarket, she sometimes drove on the wrong side of the road because, as she put it, "for some reason it was smoother."

She applied that same optimism in every facet of her life: I thought of Pat as the unofficial paparazzi of Spring Hill. She would attend community events with her camera in hand; snap pictures unbeknownst to those around her and a short time later a copy would appear in the mail: She was always sure to capture your most flattering side.

Pat knew when to get down to business as well. It is that business sense to which much of her professional successes can be attributed: She was the founder of Spring Hill's first independent real estate agency, Fleck Real Estate; she later parlayed her knowledge of the industry into a real estate school. She was also a founder of the West Hernando Chamber of Commerce where she served as its chairwoman.

She was a community organizer we all could appreciate! She was a long time board member of HPH Hospice and an avid supporter of many community organizations in-

cluding Stage West Community Playhouse. Pat worked tirelessly to insure that they had the resources they needed in order to be successful contributors to the community.

I am grateful to have known Pat. She had a heart of gold and a boundless love for Hernando County. It is so fitting that Hernando County shared that same love for her in return.

RECOGNIZING PERU FOR ENGAGING IN PEACEFUL DIALOGUE WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO OVERCOME POLITICAL CONFLICT

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, on June 23, 2009, I introduced House Resolution 574, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Peru should engage in peaceful dialogue to address ongoing political conflict between state authorities and indigenous peoples in compliance with the U.N. declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention 169.

Earlier this year conflict had developed in Peru over the enactment of Legislative Decrees 1090 and 1064, which had potentially significant adverse impacts on the rights and property of Peru's indigenous peoples. Protests erupted in June in Bagua, Peru ultimately leading to the deaths of police officers and protestors.

In subsequent months, the Government of Peru has taken a number of steps to reduce tensions, investigate the violence and engage in peaceful dialogue. On July 23, 2009, Dorothy Ngutter, Peru Desk Officer at the State Department, sent my office information on developments related to H. Res. 574, noting improvements on the ground, including an agreement with indigenous groups on the establishment of a "multi-sectoral commission consist[ing] of government, civil society, NGOs and indigenous leaders." I am including the full text of her message in my remarks for the record.

On July 24, 2009, I met with Peru's Ambassador to the United States, Luis M. Valdivieso, and he described the steps taken by Peru in the aftermath of the violence in more detail. On September 10, 2009, he sent me a letter along with a progress report on the work of the National Group of Coordination for the Development of Amazon Communities, which he noted, "was created in the aftermath of the unfortunate events that took place in Bagua, Amazon Region of Peru in early June."

According to that progress report, the National Group of Coordination for the Development of Amazon Communities (NGCDAC), created four subgroups focused on examining the events in Bagua, evaluating the contentious Legislative Decrees, gathering information on appropriate methods of consultation regarding International Labor Organization Convention 169 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and creating a National Development Plan for the Amazon Region for submission to Peru's Congress by December 26, 2009.

The steps taken by the Government of Peru are positive, in line with H. Res. 574, and deserve recognition. I applaud the progress in Peru and want my friends there to know that